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Amerinet Receives Champion for Change Award for Environmental Achievement

St. Louis, Mo. (May 12, 2010) - Amerinet, a leading national group purchasing organization, has been named the recipient of the 2010 Champion for Change Award by Practice Greenhealth for outstanding contributions to environmentally responsible healthcare.

Practice Greenhealth is honoring its top performers at the Environmental Excellence Awards today, held in Baltimore, Md., in conjunction with CleanMed, the premier global conference on environmentally sustainable healthcare.

“As a multi-year recipient of the Champion for Change Award, we continually strive to build upon our efforts in regard to environmental stewardship and work internally, as well as with our members and suppliers to establish waste reduction and pollution prevention initiatives,” said Todd Ebert, Amerinet president and CEO.

The Champion for Change Award is an award reserved for organizational partners supplying healthcare products and services that are considerate of the earth and its resources. The winners of this award have achieved success in greening their own organization and have also assisted others who are committed to improving their environmental performance.

Recognizing the importance of greening the healthcare supply chain, Amerinet currently offers more than 66,000 green purchasing options, which are available in virtually all product and service areas, with environmentally friendly advantages including energy efficiency, waste reduction, mercury alternative and recycling, package efficiency, greener cleaners and recyclable or compostable products. Amerinet also offers continued support of organizations, such as Practice Greenhealth, who provide education and consulting services on environmentally preferable purchasing (EPP) topics and work in conjunction with Amerinet on strategies to expand green products/services within the portfolio.

Among Amerinet’s environmental successes for 2009:

- The recycling of more than 3.16 tons of waste
- A reduction of 6.3 percent in paper used by the Distribution/Printing Team
- Addition of a Community Impact and/or Innovation (green initiatives) category for the Amerinet Healthcare Achievement Awards
- Merger of two major member conferences into one, eliminating all related waste, travel, etc. by nearly \$200,000 and significantly decreasing the organization’s carbon footprint

“The award is a reflection of Amerinet’s commitment to its customers to protect health and preserve the environment,” said Bob Jarboe, executive director, Practice Greenhealth. “It is exciting to know that Amerinet is leading this effort and setting an example for other institutions.”

During the CleanMed conference, Mike Reid, senior director of construction, capital and facility services for Amerinet, is participating in an environmental purchasing roundtable with other major group purchasing organizations (GPOs), discussing environmental priorities for 2010 and how GPOs are addressing their members’ needs for environmentally preferable products.

Practice Greenhealth provides practical guidance, training, consultation and business solutions to help its members in their efforts to implement environmentally responsible practices. More than 1,000 healthcare institutions have joined Practice Greenhealth, demonstrating the growing commitment among the health community to reduce its environmental impact. Practice Greenhealth offers a variety of programs to its members, including the Healthcare Clean Energy Exchange, environmental purchasing, sustainable operations, continuing education, webinars, networking opportunities, communications and annual awards recognizing the achievements of member institutions.

About Amerinet

As a leading national healthcare group purchasing organization, Amerinet strategically partners with acute and alternate care providers to reduce costs and improve quality through its performance solutions. Built on a foundation of data, savings and trust, and supported by a team of clinical and supply chain experts, Amerinet enriches healthcare delivery for its members and the communities they serve. To learn more about the Amerinet difference, visit www.amerinet-gpo.com.